

### Cadmium Federal Register Notice (Elias)

On December 1, EPA published the draft cadmium criteria document in the *Federal Register*. The 60-day public comment period ends on February 1. The document has undergone two rounds of Agency review and an external peer review. The external peer review report and EPA's response are available on the Agency's website.<sup>1</sup> EPA plans to publish the final criteria in late spring.

EPA last updated the criteria in 2001. The revised criteria include updates to both the acute and chronic freshwater and saltwater values, which are primarily based on new toxicity data. EPA also is incorporating 70 new species and 49 new genera into the document. For the freshwater criteria, hardness remains the primary driver. The proposed values are similar to those adopted in 2001, as shown in the following table.

	2001 Criteria		2015 Proposed Criteria	
	Acute	Chronic	Acute	Chronic
<b>Freshwater</b>	2.0 µg/L	0.25 µg/L	2.1 µg/L	0.73 µg/L
<b>Saltwater</b>	40 µg/L	8.3 µg/L	35 µg/L	8.3 µg/L

## Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.epa.gov/wqc/aquatic-life-criteria-cadmium>.